

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the due consideration given the application. Claims 1-29 are pending in the application.

Election/Restriction

The Examiner has restricted the claims of the invention into the following species:

- 1) Fig. 8, a seal pattern between the second inorganic insulating layer and an inner surface of the second substrate (upper substrate), the seal pattern contacting the whole second inorganic insulating layer;
- 2) Fig. 9E, a seal pattern on the second inorganic insulating layer, and the seal pattern contacts the first inorganic insulating layer through a groove;
- 3) Fig. 10F, a seal pattern on the second inorganic insulating layer, and the second inorganic layer contacts the first inorganic insulating layer through a groove;
- 4) Fig. 11D, a seal pattern on the second inorganic insulating layer, and the seal pattern contacts the first inorganic insulating layer through multiple grooves;
- 5) Fig. 12E, a seal pattern on the second inorganic insulating layer, and the seal pattern contacts the second inorganic insulating layer at sidewalls of the multiple grooves;

6) Fig. 13E, a seal pattern on the second inorganic insulating layer, and the seal pattern contacts a metal layer (to be the same layer as gate electrode of the TFT on the lower substrate) through multiple grooves;

7) Fig. 14C, a seal pattern on the second inorganic insulating layer, and the seal patterns contacts a metal layer (to be the same layer as source and drain electrodes of the TFT on the first inorganic insulating layer, such as on the gate insulating layer) through multiple grooves; and

8) Fig. 15, a pixel layer on the organic insulating layer, and the seal pattern being formed on the pixel layer.

The applicants elect Species 2, with traverse. Claims 1-6, 11, 19-22 and 25 read on this elected species.

As set forth in Section 803 of the MPEP, the Examiner must examine an application on the merits if the examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden. Two criteria are identified for proper requirement for restriction:

1. The inventions must be independent or distinct as claimed; and
2. There must be a serious burden on the Examiner if the restriction is not required.

Applicants respectfully submit that a serious burden has not been placed on the Examiner to consider all of the species in a single application. A review of the subject matter set forth in the claims would have an overlapping search. Thus a different field of search really does not exist with regard to the species of the present application.

Upon allowance of a generic claim, the applicant respectfully requests consideration of the additional species as provided in 37 C.F.R. 1.141

Accordingly, for all of the aforesaid reasons, rejoinder and examination of all the species on the merits is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

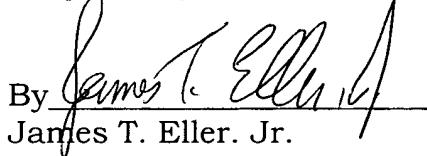
If there are any questions regarding this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert E. Goozner, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 42,593) at 703-205-8000.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 
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